

Message Text

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17

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 CU-02

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R 111030Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7919

INFO AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, TU

SUBJ: LEFT-RIGHT VIOLENCE CONTINUES

REF: ANKARA 854

1. CLASHES BETWEEN LEFTIST AND RIGHTIST GROUPS CONTINUED OVER THE WEEKEND WITH SEPARATE INCIDENTS IN YOZGAT AND ELAZIG, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS. IN YOZGAT ON FEBRUARY 7, ONE STUDENT WAS BEATEN DURING A CONFRONTATION AT THE YOZGAT LYCEE BETWEEN RIGHTIST AND LEFTIST STUDENT GROUPS. IN ELAZIG ON FEBRUARY 8, A MEETING JOINTLY SPONSORED BY THE LEFTIST LABOR UNION DISK AND THE TURKISH TEACHERS' UNION (TOB) WAS HELD TO PROTEST "FASCISM.", THE HIGH COST OF LIVING, AND UNEMPLOYMENT. RIGHTIST "COMMANDOS" REPORTEDLY ATTEMPTED TO DISRUPT THE DEMONSTRATION, AND IN THE RESULTING CLASH 47 PERSONS WERE INJURED (INCLUDING 11 POLICE). FINALLY, ARMY TROOPS WERE CALLED IN TO HELP RESTORE ORDER.

2. IN RELATED DEVELOPMENTS, THE STATE SECURITY COURT IN ISTANBUL ORDERED THE ARREST OF THREE STUDENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEATH OF STUDENT KERIM YAMAN ON JANUARY 23 (ISTANBUL 271). ALSO, TEN MEMBERS OF THE RIGHTIST ULKU OCAKLAR

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WERE ARRESTED IN ANKARA FEBRUARY 7 FOR PUTTING UP POSTERS

READING "SILENCE TO TRT". MEANWHILE, 21 LEFTIST STUDENTS WERE TAKEN INTO CUSTODY BY ANKARA MARTIAL LAW AUTHORITIES FOR EFFORTS TO CONTINUE THE BOYCOTT AT THE STATE ARCHITECTURE AND ENGINEERING ACADEMY.

3. PRIMIN SADI IRMAK, REFERRING TO RECENT STUDENT VIOLENCE WHILE SPEAKING IN THE SENATE BUDGET DEBATED FEBRUARY 7, SAID THAT WHILE HIS GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN IN OFFICE, THREE STUDENTS HAD BEEN KILLED, 60 WOUNDED, AND 260 SUSPECTS ARRESTED. IRMAK ALSO SAID 15 OTHER SUSPECTS WERE ON THE RUN, BUT THE NET AROUND THEM WAS TIGHTENING DAILY. MEANWHILE, REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY LEADER BLUENT ECEVIT (WHO HAD EARLIER CHARGED THE NATIONALIST FRONT PARTIES WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR RECENT STUDENT VIOLENCE-- SEE REFTTEL), TOLD THE PRESS IN ISTANBUL FEBRUARY 9 THAT WHILE BOYCOTTS AND ACTIVISM WERE SOMETIMES BASED ON VALID REASONS, "...THEY SERVE NO OTHER PURPOSE THAN TO GIVE OPPORTUNITIES TO THE ENEMIES OF THE (DEMOCRATIC) REGIME. UNDER THE PRESENT CRISIS OF AUTHORITY ATTENTION CANNOT BE DRAWN TO THE PROBLEMS OF YOUTH THROUGH THIS MEANS AND A SOLUTION CANNOT BE FOUND THIS WAY." HE CALLED ON YOUTH TO END ALL ACTIVISM AND THEREBY EXPOSE THE "AGGRESSORS AND PROVOCATEURS".

4. COMMENT: WHILE LEFT-RIGHT CLASHES CONTINUE, THE WILLINGNESS OF THE TURKISH AUTHORITIES TO USE POLICE AND (IF NECESSARY) MILITARY FORCES TO CONTAIN THE VOILENCE HAS THUS FAR PREVENTED THE CLASHES FROM GETTING OUT OF HAND. HOWEVER, THE ELAZIG INCIDENT SUGGESTS THESE CLASHES COULD SPREAD BEYOND THE CAMPUSES.
MACOMBER

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